

into their practice, I strongly encourage them to do so. Despite the reality that no patient wants to learn that they have a skin cancer, you will hear a sigh of relief if you can state, with reasonable confidence, that a diagnosis of a pigmented BCC is favored over a melanoma. The subsequent wait for the biopsy result becomes much less anxiety provoking.

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JAAD Game Changers: Multivariate Analysis of potential risk factors for lymph node metastasis in patients with cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck



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Capsule Summary

- Risk factors for metastasis from cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma are incorporated in tumor staging by the seventh edition of the American Joint Committee on Cancer Cancer Staging Manual.
- We confirmed most risk factors and also identified moderate differentiation as a predictor for lymph node metastasis.
- Moderate differentiation can be considered in tumor staging.

How did this article change the practice of dermatology?

The independent risk factors for cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck for the development of lymph node metastasis include location on the ear, tumor diameter >50 mm, moderate and poor differentiation, and tumor thickness >2 mm. This article added moderate differentiation as a predictor for lymph node metastasis.¹

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